

700 - CHAPTER OVERVIEW

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/00

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This chapter provides information about the health care services available through the School-Based Claiming Program, specifically, the Direct Service Claiming (DSC) Program. Through this Program, AHCCCS provides Medicaid coverage of certain services to be rendered by providers who are employed by, or contracted with, the member's Local Education Agency (LEA). LEAs include public school districts, charter schools not sponsored by a school district and the State School for the Deaf and Blind.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

All the following general requirements must be met to be considered a DSC covered service.

1. DSC providers must be registered with AHCCCS prior to providing services to AHCCCS members enrolled in the DSC Program, and must carry liability insurance as required by the provider agreement.
2. Services are covered only for AHCCCS Title XIX members who are from three through 21 years of age, and who have been determined by the LEA to be eligible for special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B.

Those members age three through ages 20 are eligible for services covered under EPSDT. Those members age 21 to age 22 who are eligible for Medicaid services provided under IDEA are covered within the same service limitations that apply to all eligible AHCCCS acute care members age 21 and older.

Emergency Services Program recipients and KidsCare members are not eligible for services through the DSC Program.

3. Assessment, diagnostic and evaluation services are covered under the Program only when one or more DSC covered services are included in the member's Individual Education Plan (IEP) as a result of the assessment, diagnostic or evaluation service, and claims or other documentation that demonstrate the service(s) have been provided.

If an assessment, diagnostic or evaluation service is provided as part of the eligibility determination process for the DSC Program, it will be covered if the member is indeed determined to be eligible for the Program and receives a DSC covered service. If the member is not determined to be eligible for the DSC Program, or the evaluation results in a service that is not covered under the DSC Program, the assessment, diagnostic or evaluation service will not be covered.

4. All covered services under the DSC Program must be determined by an AHCCCS registered provider to be medically necessary and included in the member's IEP. The appropriate qualified provider for each particular service identified in the IEP must determine and include in the IEP the scope, frequency and duration of the service to be provided and must sign and date the IEP.
5. Services must be provided in accordance with the IEP for the purpose of developing, improving or maintaining skills required for the member to begin and/or continue to receive education through the public school system.
6. The services must be provided during a regular school day within a public school unless the member's IEP specifies an approved alternative setting due to the member's medical condition. Approved alternative settings include a clinic, medical professional office or other medical facility, another school, or the member's residence. These settings are included in this Policy as a "public school setting."
7. Prior authorization is not required for a DSC assessment, evaluation, diagnostic or treatment service if it is provided as part of the DSC eligibility determination process, or when the service is included in the eligible member's IEP and provided in a public school setting. However, claims for reimbursement for eligible services are subject to a pre-payment review.
8. As described in the CMS "Free Care" rule, AHCCCS does not cover any DSC service or related administrative cost provided to Medicaid students if the same service is normally provided to all students whether they are eligible for special education or not. In addition, AHCCCS does not cover educational services customarily provided by instructional aides or attendants.
9. If approved by the LEA, members who reside near the borders of Arizona and California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado or New Mexico may receive services from a provider licensed in one of these States if the provider is in closer proximity to the member and is a registered AHCCCS provider.

For complete information regarding billing for services, and available training or technical assistance related to the DSC Program, contact the AHCCCS contracted Third Party Administrator.